JANE M. SWIFT, Governor Commonwealth of Massachusetts BOB DURAND, Secretary Executive Office of Environmental Affairs DAVID M. PETERS, Commissioner Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Environmental Law Enforcement

WAYNE F. MacCALLUM, Director Division of Fisheries & Wildlife FISHERIES & WILDLIFE BOARD GEORGE L. DAREY, Chairman (Lend IOHN F. (TREFDON Secretary)

GEORGE L. DAREY, Chairman (Lenox) JOHN F. CREEDON, Secretary (Brockton) JOSEPH S. LARSON (Pelham) MICHAEL P. ROCHE (Orange) ERNEST W. FOSTER, Jr. (Worcester) RUSSELL A. COOKINGHAM (Monument Beach) FREDERIC WINTHROP (Ipswich)

NATURAL HERITAGE & ENDANGERED SPECIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE KATHLEEN S. ANDERSON, Chairperson (Middleborough) PAMELA WEATHERBEE, Secretary (Williamstown) MARILYN J. FLOR (Rockport) JOSEPH S.LARSON (Pelham) MARK MELLO (South Dartmouth) STEPHEN M. MEYER (Sudbury) JONATHAN A. SHAW (Sandwich)

EDITORIAL STAFF:
PETER G. MIRICK, Editor
ELLIE HORWITZ, Executive Editor
BILL BYRNE, Feature Photographer
DAVID GLASSBURN GABRIEL, Art Director
JILL DURAND, Circulation Manager
NANCY LEE FULHAM, Circulation



MassWildlife

The Division of Fisheries & Wildlife is an agency of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, age or sex. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any Division program, activity, or facility, contact: Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, Washington, D.C. 20240. MASSACHUSETTS Wildlife (ISSN 0025-4924) is published quarterly by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, Information & Education Section, Fisheries & Wildlife Field Headquarters, Westborough, MA 01581. Tel.: (508) 792-7270. Subscriptions: \$6/ year; \$10/2 years. Checks or Money Orders only. Notify us at once when your address changes: send the label off your magazine along with the new address. Magazines not delivered through failure to send change of address six weeks in advance cannot be replaced. Not responsible for unsolicited material. No advertising accepted. Articles may not be reprinted without prior permission, except that photocopying for classroom use is permitted. All material copyright of **MassWildlifer** or the author, artist or photographer of the works. Printing and postage costs are paid by subscription revenue.

Publication of this document is approved by the State Purchasing Agent

25M 03/02

## MASSACHUSETTS WILDLIFE

Vol. LII No. 1

## SPECIAL BIOMAP ISSUE

**Conserving Insects?** 

— by Michael Nelson and Jennifer Loose If we can protect the most specialized of our native insects through habitat protection and management, we will ensure the survival of almost every other species that lives within their natural communities ...

BioMap: Guiding Land Conservation for Biodiversity in Massachusetts

10

— Andy Finton and Claire Corcoran Based on decades of rare species and natural community data, BioMap provides a new and essential tool for conserving the native wildlife resources of the Commonwealth ...

## Using the BioMap to Protect Biodiversity

22

— by Lynn Harper and Andy Finton Want to help protect the habitat in your town that's crucial to the perpetuation of biodiversity? Here's advice on how to prioritize conservation efforts and find the resources necessary for success ...

Saving Habitat for Herps

28

— Scott M. Melvin and Suzanne C. Fowle The rapid decline of many of our native reptiles and amphibians presents conservationists with a host of challenges, not the least of which is that species that live the longest may be the most difficult to save ...

Correspondents, 37

On the Cover: Beauty and biodiversity in abundance are things that Bay State residents have long taken for granted, but retaining our rich natural heritage for future generations in the face of intense development pressures requires public commitment, funding, and the newly created land protection "blueprint" called BioMap featured in this issue. Photo by Bill Byrne

## Surfers! Check out our website at

www.masswildlife.org

Questions about your subscription? Change of address? Call toll free: 1 - 800 - 289 - 4778.

